

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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62

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /018 W  
----- 106676

R 120940Z MAR 76  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1991  
INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS TUNIS 1769

DEPT FOR EB/OCA/CM

USDOC FOR CAGNE/PLANAGAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TS

SUBJECT: NE AND N AFRICAN COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE

REFS: (A) STATE 57292, (B) TUNIS 1358, (C) 75 STATE 280145,  
(D) 75 TUNIS 7328

1. BELIEVE NATURE OF AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN TUNISIA DOES NOT PROFITABLY LEND ITSELF TO TYPE OF LUNCHEON SUGGESTED REF A. FEW FIRMS REPRESENTED BY AMERICANS AND, EXCEPT FOR 2 REGIONAL BANK REPRESENTATIVES, MOST OF THESE IN SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS PETROLEUM EXPLORATION OR AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE, WITH LITTLE INTEREST IN GENERAL ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL MATTERS. WE COULD INVITE SOME NON-AMERICAN AND TUNISIAN REPS OF US FIRMS BUT THEIR INTEREST ALSO QUESTIONABLE AND LANGUAGE PROBLEMS ARE.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD, HOWEVER, BE USEFUL TO INCLUDE A FEW SELECTED AMERICAN AND FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN TUNIS IN "WARM-UP" RECEPTION TO BE HOSTED BY CHARGE. EMBASSY WILLING TO ABSORB IN REPRESENTATION BUDGET ADDITIONAL EXPENSE FOR NON-CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS, WHILE STATE/COMMERCE FUND COST FOR CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS PER REF C.

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3. CHARGE TENTATIVELY PLANNING RECEPTION FOR 1930 ON

MARCH 29 TO ALLOW FOR ARRIVAL THOSE PARTICIPANTS REACHING  
TUNIS ON MARCH 29 VIA ALITALIA 864 AT 1815. WASHINGTON  
PARTICIPANTS SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT ALITALIA 864 IS ONLY  
POSSIBLE SAME-DAY CONNECTION INTO TUNIS FOR OFFICIAL US  
TRAVELLERS FROM WASHINGTON. THIS IS NORMALLY HEAVILY  
BOOKED FLIGHT. IF WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS PLAN TO ARRIVE  
SUNDAY, MARCH 28, EMBASSY SHOULD BE NOTIFIED ASAP GIVEN  
TIGHT HOTEL SITUATION BEGINNING O/A MARCH 15, PER REF B.

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## Message Attributes

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